

CHRIST the SAVIOUR of the WORLD.

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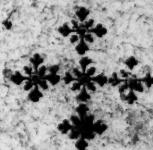
73.

S E R M O N:

Preached immediately before the Celebration
of the LORD'S SUPPER, at *Ettrick*, June
7th, 1724.

By the Rev. MR. THOMAS BOSTON,
late Minister of the Gospel at *Ettrick*. 74

I JOHN iv. 14. *And we have seen; and do
testify, that the Father sent his Son to be the
Saviour of the world.*



G L A S G O W,
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M D C C X E.

I JOHN iv. 14. *And we have seen, and do testify, that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.*

JOHN, the beloved disciple, in his epistles, is still breathing love; love is the string he delights particularly to harp upon: So he is either magnifying God's love to us, or pressing our love to God, and to one another. And his darling subject, love, is no narrow one, but most comprehensive; it comprehends both the gospel and the law, both faith and works. The love of God to man is the great doctrine of the gospel, the object of faith; men's love to God, and to one another, is the great doctrine of the law of the ten commandments, and the object of holy practice. And there is a near relation between the two: God's love is the fountain, our love the stream; the former the original holy fire, the latter the flame kindled by it. Accordingly, in the text, there is a display of the love of God, for moving us to love one another; the which display of divine love is the substance of the gospel.

Here then we have the gospel, which all the apostles were in one voice to preach unto the world; 'We have seen, and do testify, that the Father sent the Son to be the

Saviour of the world.' And therein we may consider,

1. The gospel, or glad tidings itself, viz. That 'the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.' Here is glad news to the world, Christ's mission. The promise of this mission was made to fallen Adam in paradise: Believers, under the Old Testament, lived and died in the faith of it. But the apostles testified it as a thing performed; 'the Father sent,' or, 'hath sent the Son.' The party sent, is the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ; no other was fit for this mission. The party sending, from whom he had his commission, was the Father; the first person of the glorious Trinity. None of a lower dignity could send one of his dignity. The character in which he was sent, is 'the Son, Saviour of the world.' So the words are without any supplement; of which there is no need here. So Christ is said to have come a teacher from God. John iii. 2. i. e. in the character of a divine teacher. As one is sent ambassador to such a court, that is, constituted by his prince ambassador to that court, and accordingly sent away in that character: so Christ was constituted, nominated, and appointed by his Father, Saviour of the world, and so sent away into the world in that character. The world is the world of mankind indefinitely, ruined by Adam's sin. John iii. 16. 'God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten

Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' Therein God's love towards men appeared. Titus iii. 4.

2. The certainty of this gospel or glad tidings. All the apostles witnessed with one mouth this great truth: And they witnessed the same as eye-witnesses, having seen the Saviour, and read his commission for that effect, and beheld Heaven's seal again and again set to it, in his miracles. And this matter of their witnessing from their eye-sight, was so much stood upon, that the apostle Paul, who was not called to be an apostle till after Christ's ascension, was allowed first to see with his eyes, before he should bear witness, Acts xxvi. 16. 'I have appeared unto thee for this very purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee.'

Doctr. It is the great truth and testimony of the gospel, that the Father has sent his Son Jesus Christ in the character of Saviour of the world.

In prosecuting of this doctrine, I shall,

I. Take notice of some things imported in this testimony.

II. Open this character, 'Saviour of the world,' in which Christ was sent.

III. Apply.

I. I shall take notice of some things imported in this testimony.

1. The world needed a Saviour; otherwise one had not been provided for them by him who does nothing in vain. It was a sick world, cast into a desperate illness by eating of the forbidden fruit; and needed a physician to cure the distemper. Mat. ix. 12. 'Jesus said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.' It was a cursed world, flaked down under wrath by the sentence of the broken law; and needed a Saviour to remove the curse, and bring in the blessing, Acts iii. 26. 'God having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you,' &c. It was a lost world, lost to God, lost to themselves, lost to all good, lost and perishing under the wrath of God; and it needed one to seek and save them, Luke xix. 10. 'For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.'

2. None, of inferior dignity to the Son of God, could be the Saviour of the world. No man, nor angel was able to sustain the character of Saviour of a lost world: The work which lay to that office, was above the reach of the whole creation, Rev. v. 3. 'And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon.' Here was a trial of the divine love to man; his case was hopeless and helpless from all the creatures; and it issued in that, 'God so loved the world,' that he gave his only begotten Son,' John iii. 16.

6 *Christ the Saviour of the world.*

3. Christ was sent Saviour of the world from Heaven's proper motion. The plot to save man, was concerted entirely without him. The world did not meet, and send one to the court of heaven, with a petition for a Saviour, that a Saviour was granted to their earnest entreaties and supplications: But the Father, of preventing free love, sent his Son, Saviour of the world. The world's need spoke loud, but they themselves were quite silent; and yet their needs spoke no louder than those of the fallen angels; And sovereign free grace heard the voice of man's need, while it stopt its ears to the voice of the needs of fallen angels, Tit. iii. 4. 'But the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared.'

4. Christ is fully furnished for the saving of a lost world. His being sent in that character, speaks his ability to answer it. Heb. vii. 25. 'Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost, that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.' There is no case to be found in the world, but what there is a remedy to be found in Christ for. Whosoever in the world shall die, they shall not die because there was no help for their case in the Saviour, but because they did not employ him, or put their case in his hand. The Saviour of the world is certainly able to save the world; since he was sent of God in that character.

5. Lastly, The salvation of lost sinners of the world of mankind, is very acceptable to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus, as well as to himself, otherwise he had not sent his Son Saviour of the world, 1 Tim. ii. 3. 4. 'For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who will have all men to be saved.' Hence it is called 'the pleasure of the Lord,' Isa. liii. 10. 'The pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand,' So he is said to make the marriage for his Son, and to send forth to bid to that marriage, Matth. xxii. Whence it is evident, that there is no impediment to the salvation of sinners by Jesus Christ, on Heaven's part; it is pleasing to the Father, to his Son, and to his Spirit.

II. I shall open this character, 'Saviour of the world,' in which Christ was sent; and for that end enquire into two things. 1. In what sense Christ is the Saviour of the world. 2. What is the business committed to him as such.

First, In what sense Christ is the Saviour of the world. A Saviour is a name of honour, and a name of business. It is an honourable thing to save and help the miserable; to be destined, appointed, and called to that employment: But the honourable post has business annexed to it; it will not do without activity, which success is expected to attend, as in the case of a teacher, physician, and the like. Now, one may be a saviour,

even as a teacher, or physician, of a society, two ways. 1. In respect of office, as being called to, and invested with the office of saving, teaching, or curing of that society. And thus one is saviour, teacher, or physician of that society, before ever he save, teach, or cure any of them. In this respect, one may be called an official saviour, teacher, or physician. 2. In respect of the event and success, as actually and eventually saving, teaching, and healing. As the former ariseth from an appointment put upon such a one; this ariseth from the work he manageth, in virtue of that appointment. In this respect, one may be called an actual and eventual saviour. Thus it is said, Neh. ix. 27. 'And according to thy manifold mercies, thou gavest them saviours, who saved them out of the hands of their enemies.'—This premised, we say,

1. Our Lord Jesus is the actual and eventual Saviour of the elect only, in whose room and stead only he died upon the cross, according to the eternal compact passed between him and the Father, in the covenant of grace, otherwise called the covenant of redemption; for these are not two, but one and the same covenant. Thus the apostle calls him 'the Saviour of the body,' Eph. v. 23. that is, of the elect, who make up the body whereof he was appointed the head from eternity, and in whose name he contracted with the Father in the eternal cove-

nant. And he is their Saviour eventually, as actually saving them, Matth. i. 21. 'And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins.' None but these will ever truly employ him as a Saviour, or put their case in his hand: And there are none of them but will certainly employ him sooner or later, Acts xiii. 48. 'As many as were ordained to eternal life believed.' John vi. 37. 'All that the Father giveth me, shall come to me: and him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out.'

2. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the official Saviour, not of the elect only, but of the world of mankind indefinitely; so our text calls him 'Saviour of the world.' Agreeable to which, God in Christ is called 'the Saviour of all men,' but with a speciality, 'the Saviour of them that believe,' 1 Tim. iv. 10. The matter lies here: Like as a prince, out of regard to his subjects' welfare, gives a commission to a qualified person to be physician to such a society, a regiment, or the like; and the prince's commission constitutes him physician of that society: so that though many of them should never employ him, but call other physicians, yet still there is a relation betwixt him and them; he is their physician by office; any of them all may come to him if they will, and be healed: So God looking upon the ruined world of mankind, has constituted

and appointed Jesus Christ his Son Saviour of the world: He has Heaven's patent for this office; and wheresoever the gospel comes, this his patent is intimated. Hereby a relation is constituted betwixt him and the world of mankind; he is their Saviour, and they the objects of his administration: So that any of them all may come to him, without money or price, and be saved by him as their own Saviour appointed them by the Father.

That Christ is thus the Saviour of the world, appears, if ye consider,

1. Scripture-testimony, which is plain. Our text expressly calls him so: And so do the believing Samaritans profess their faith in him, John iv. 42. 'We have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.' You have the appointment of Heaven very plain thereanent, John iii. 16. 'God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life;' even as the brazen serpent, lifted up on the pole in the wilderness, was the ordinance of God for healing to the stung persons of the whole camp of Israel. Hence Christ's salvation is called 'the common salvation,' Jude ver. 3. a salvation which any of mankind sinners may lay hold on. So the Saviour's birth is said to be 'glad tidings for all people,' Luke ii. 10, 11. which it could not have been, if

he had not been a Saviour for all people. Wherefore, he himself testifies, that he came to save the world; John iii. 17. 'God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved,' Chap. xii. 47. 'I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.' This was his office, to save sinners, but sinners of mankind indefinitely, without exception, 1 Tim. i. 15. 'This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;' the lost, Luke xix. 10. 'The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost;' 2 Cor. v. 19. 'God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them.' To the same purpose, he declares himself 'the light of the world,' namely by office, John viii. 12. that whosoever may employ him may have the light of life.

2. If it were not so, he could not warrantably be offered with his salvation to the world indefinitely, but to the elect only; more than he can be offered lawfully to fallen angels, who are not within his commission as a Saviour. For the ministerial offer can never lawfully carry the matter beyond the bounds of Christ's commission from his Father. But Christ and his salvation may be warrantably offered to the whole world of mankind sinners, with assurance that whosoever of them will employ him to save

them, he shall be saved: Mark xvi. 15, 16. 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned.' Moreover, if it were not so, the unbelief of hearers of the gospel, not elected, their not coming to Christ for salvation, could not be their sin: For it can never be one's sin not to do a thing he has no warrant for; not to employ one to save him, whom God never appointed to be his Saviour. So it is not the sin of fallen angels, that they believe not in Christ for salvation, because they are within the Saviour's commission; nor of those who never heard of Christ, because his commission was never intimated to them. But not believing in Christ the Saviour, is the sin that ruins the hearers of the gospel who do at all perish, John iii. 19. 'And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.' Finally, If it were not so, the elect themselves could not believe in Christ, till, in the first place, their election were revealed to them; which is contrary to the stated method of grace: For they can never believe on Christ for their salvation, till they see him to be a Saviour for them.

There are two things further to be remarked on this head.

1. The ground upon which Christ might

be constituted Saviour of the world by office. And that was the sufficiency of the merit of his death and sufferings: For, though Christ died only in the room and stead of his elect, on the cross sustaining their persons only, according to that, John x. 15. 'I lay down my life for the sheep;' yet the price paid for them, being of infinite worth, was sufficient in itself to save the whole world. The bread provided for them, viz. a crucified Christ, was sufficient to give life to, and feed, not them only, but the whole world of mankind; and, therefore, he might be appointed Saviour of the world, John vi. 33, 51. 'The bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. I am the living bread, which came down from heaven. If any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: And the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.'

2. The reason why he actually was constituted Saviour of the world. Among several reasons that might be given for this, I shall only observe here this one, namely, That it was put upon him as a piece of honour, the reward of his great service, in laying down his life for, and instead of, those who were the objects of his Father's electing love, Isa. xlix. 6. 8. 'And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and

to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayst be my salvation unto the end of the earth. Thus saith the Lord, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee and give thee for a covenant of the people.' The Father, for that cause, invested him with 'all power in heaven and earth.' Matth. xxviii. 18. John v. 21, 22. 'As the Father raised up the dead, and quickeneth them, even so the Son quickeneth whom he will. For the Father judgeth no man; but hath committed all judgement unto the Son.' And it was a reward suitable unto his work.

Secondly, What is the business committed to him as Saviour of the world. Not to descend into particulars here, we may take it up in these two.

I. It is to save sinners from their sin, Matth. i. 21. 'Thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins.' Satan ruined the world by bringing sin upon them: Thereby they were bound with the cords of guilt, the image of God in them was defaced, they were polluted and made loathsome, and shut up in the hands of a strange lord. God has appointed Christ Saviour of the world, that the sinners may come to him, and be delivered from their sins, 1 John iii. 8. 'He that committeth sin, is of the devil; for the de-

vil finned from the beginning. For this purpose, the Son of man was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.' It was an inveterate disease, the cure of which was quite beyond the reach of any mere creature, as far as the raising of the dead is: so he was appointed Saviour in the case. Psalm lxxxix. 19. 'I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people.'

2. It is to save sinners from misery, to free them from destruction, Hosea xiii. 9. 'O Israel thou hast destroyed thyself, but in me is thine help.' They are by sin made objects of wrath, laid under the curse of the broken law, liable to revenging wrath for time and for eternity: He is appointed to save them from all this, upon their coming to him, and employing him for that purpose, Isaiah xxxii. 2. 'And a man shall be as an hiding-place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of waters in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.' Sin let in a deluge of miseries on the world, which flow about the sinner continually in greater or lesser measure: he is a Saviour to dry it up for them, 1 Cor. i. 30. 'But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.'

USE I. Of Information.

1. Behold here, admire, and believe the

great love of God to a lost world, in providing a Saviour, and such a Saviour, for them, even his own Son. The Scripture speaks of this in a very high strain, John iii. 16. 'God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,' &c. There was a man-love in God, Titus iii. 4. 'But the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared:' A love of the kind, mankind. It has appeared in two eminent instances. (1.) In securing, by an irreversible decree, the salvation of some of them. (2.) In providing a Saviour for the whole of the kind, constituting his own Saviour to the lost family of Adam indefinitely. Believe it with application to yourselves. If upon this a secret murmur begins to go through your heart, But it was not for me; crush it in the bud, for it is a bud of hell. If you are not one of the devil kind, but of sinful mankind, it was for you. The Father gave Christ a Saviour for you, that if you would believe on him, you should not perish; he sent his Son from heaven with full instructions and ample powers to save you, if you will believe. And is not this love? Believe it, and it will be the way to let you into a sight of more love.

2. Behold here a broad and firm foundation of faith for all and every one of you; that you may come to Christ, whatever your case is, and claim his righteousness and his whole salvation for yourselves to him as the

refuge appointed for you by the Father from sin and wrath, with as much freedom as a stung Israelite might have looked to the brazen serpent: That you may wholly trust on him, that he will save you from sin and wrath. For he was sent of the Father Saviour of the world; and if, by the Father's appointment, he is Saviour of the world, he is, by office, your Saviour and my Saviour, since we are members of that world of mankind: So that we may, by faith, claim his saving us from sin and wrath; as a scholar bred in a place, may claim teaching of him who is appointed master of a free school in that place; as those of a congregation may claim preaching of their own minister; and as the wounded in battle may claim healing of their own physician, who has a commission to be physician to their regiment. For we testify, that the Father sent the Son Saviour of the world.

3. Sinners living in their sins, pining away, and about to perish eternally in them, are without excuse. For, 'we testify, that the Father has sent the Son Saviour of the world.' John xv. 22. 'If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: But now they have no cloke for their sin.' Sinners are destroyed with their living and raging lusts, they are run down with them as with running sores, their souls are bleeding to death with them as with mortal

wounds: In this case, they hold on over the belly of their convictions; and they say, they cannot help it. One cannot help his swearing; another his sensuality; another, pride, passion, covetousness, gross ignorance, his old corrupt, unrenewed heart. But the truth is, ye will not have it helped, John v. 40. 'Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.' If ye cannot help it, ye have a Saviour who can help it, and would certainly help it if ye would employ him. Know it of a truth, if any of you shall perish, and if ye go on in your sins, ye shall perish, ye shall not perish for want of a Saviour. At the tribunal of God, the devils may say, We could not be saved from our sins; for, there was no Saviour appointed for us: The Pagans may say, We could not be saved; for, though we were within the compass of the Saviour's commission, yet we never heard it, it never was intimated to us. But what will ye get to say, for that ye are not saved from your sins; when your Saviour shall sit judge upon you, and condemn you to suffer the vengeance of eternal fire, for that ye would have none of him, nor his salvation; ye would not be saved from your sins, would not put your case in his hand; though he had his Father's commission to be Saviour of the world, and your Saviour, and it was read to you, ye would not receive him as your Saviour,

but would rather die in your sins than employ him.

4. Believers themselves may be ashamed and confounded, for that iniquity prevails so against them. Alas! it is a sad sign the Saviour is little employed among us. Little living by faith, makes little holiness of life. O look to that sin that so easily besets you, that has so often wrecked your soul's ease: Believe you have a Saviour for it, and employ him.

USE II. For trial.

Try whether the Saviour of the world, by office, is your actual Saviour; whether or no he has saved you. Think not that Christ puts off his saving of sinners till they come to heaven: True, they are not completely saved till they be there; but, if your salvation by Christ is not begun here, you shall never get there. Tit. iii. 5, 6, 7. 'Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but, according to his mercy, he saved us by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which he shed on us abundantly, through Jesus Christ our Saviour: That, being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.' And ye have no right before the Lord to his table, if he has not been a Saviour to you actually and eventually in having saved you from sin and wrath initially, though not completely: For if it is not so, it is an evidence you have not

received him as your Saviour; for no sooner is he employed by a sinner, but he begins to save that sinner.

Mark 1. If Christ has really begun to save you, ye will have the saved man's thoughts of sin, and of the wrath of God. If a drowning man were pulled alive out of a water, or a filthy, stinking puddle; and standing at the side of it, looking to it after that gliff; what would be his thoughts of that water, that puddle, where he was once over head and ears, and almost gone? Such will be your thoughts of sin, and of the wrath of God. Ye will have awful and reverend thoughts of the wrath of God above all awful things, Heb. xii. 28, 29. 'Wherefore, we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear, for our God is a consuming fire.' Matth. x. 28. 'Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: But rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.' Of all terrors it will be to you the most terrible. Those in the state of wrath, they are either so as they have lost their senses in it; they know not where they are, they are dreaming of some pleasant place; and so they go on peacefully in their sins, undisturbed with thoughts of wrath; or else they have some terrible apprehensions of it:

But there is something more terrible ; and, therefore, they will rather sin than suffer the hardships attending duty, yea, attending mortification ; or else their heart is fire-hot with the terror of the wrath of God, and, in the mean time, at least key-cold of love and child-like affection to the God whose wrath it is. But the saved soul looks on it as of all things the most awful, but, in the mean time, with a child-like reverence of and affection to that God whose wrath it is.

Mark 2. Ye will have a transcendent esteem of and love to your Saviour, 1 Pet. ii. 7. 'Unto you which believe he is precious.' His conscience-purifying blood, his soul-sanctifying spirit, will be more valuable to you than a thousand worlds, ye will desire them above all things, pant and long after them, and ay more and more of them ; and, in comparison of them, all the world will be but trifles in your eyes, which ye would be content to part with, to gain them, Matthew xiii. 46. 'The merchant-man, when he had found one pearl of great price, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.' Luke xiv. 26. If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.' Phil. iii. 8, 9. 'Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss, for the excellency of the know-

ledge of Christ Jesus my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.'

Mark 3. Lastly, Ye will be groaning under the remains of the disease of sin ye are saved from; your conscience will witness ye would be wholly rid of it. Rom. vii. 24. 'O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death!' Your souls will be longing for the complete salvation; that the enemies you see to day, ye may see no more for ever; that ye may get a complete victory over all your corruptions, Rom. viii. 23. 'We ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.'

USE last.

Receive the Lord Jesus, then, O sinners, in that character wherein his Father sent him, as the Saviour of the world, and your Saviour. Ye are lost in your sins, and lost under the wrath of God, and the curse of the law; come to him for his whole salvation. Employ him, put your case in his hand as your Saviour by the Father's appointment; and fight him no more.

Motive 1. Consider you need a Saviour.

Your disease of sin will ruin you, if ye be not saved from it. The guilt of it will stake you down under wrath, and the wrath of God will sink you into hell. And while sin keeps its dominion over you, be sure the guilt is not removed. Matth. ix. 12. 'They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.' Gen. ii. 17. 'But of the tree of knowledge, of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: For in the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die.'

Mot. 2. There is no Saviour besides Christ, Acts iv. 12. 'Neither is there salvation in any other: For there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.' All others are physicians of no value. All your own endeavours will not save you, nor any thing any creature can do for you.

Mot. 3. He is able to save you, Heb. vii. 25. 'He is able to save them to the uttermost, that come unto God by him.' Whatever be your case, there is infinite merit in his blood to take away the deepest guilt. 1 John i. 7. 'The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth from all sin.' There is an infinite efficacy of his Spirit to sanctify the most unholy. Cor. vi. 11. 'And such were some of you: But ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, by the Spirit of our God.' If ye doubt it, ye dishonour Christ, and his Father who sent him. Psalm

lxxxix. 19. 'Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy One, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people.'

Mot. 4. He is willing to save you, Rev. xxii. 17. 'And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst, come: And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.' The only thing wanting is your willingness to be saved. Jer. xiii. 27. 'Wo unto thee, O Jerusalem, wilt thou be made clean? when shall it once be?' There is no fear of being rejected if ye come, John vi. 37. 'Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out.' He has taken on him the office of Saviour of the world, and he cannot refuse the business of it.

Mot. 5. Lastly, Ye must either receive him as your Saviour from sin and wrath, according to his commission; or ye will be, and be held refusers of him for your Saviour, after his Father has nominated and commissioned him for that effect. Consider how ye will answer that before the judgement-seat.

Quest. How shall I receive him, and employ him? Ans. By faith, by believing on him. Being convinced of your sin and cursed state, and desiring to be saved from both, believe Christ is your Saviour by his Father's appointment; and so wholly trust on him as a crucified Saviour, for his whole salvation, on the ground of God's faithfulness in his word.

F I N I S.

